Revision of royalty rate for coal

2944. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to revise the royalty rates for coal;

(b) if so, when the last revision was made and whether Government propose to revise it during the financial year 1989-90; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised w.e.f. 13-2-1981. A Study Group was constituted in November, 1984 to consider the question of further revision of rates of royalty on coal. The report of the Study Group was received in 1985. The rates of royalty on coal are not being revised now in view of the problems posed by the imposition of cesses/levies on coal by some of the State Governments.

Allocation of power from Farakka and Chukha Power Project to Orissa

2945. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa had requested to his Ministry to allocate 15 per cent power from Farakka and Chukha Power projects to that State;

(b) whether it was decided earlier to allocate 15 per cent of total power generated from these projects to Orissa;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to allocate power to the State of Orissa from the National Power grid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Orissa has the following shares from Farakka STPS and Chukha HEP:—

Farakka STPS (3x200 MW)	75 MW (12.5 per cent)
Chukha HEP (4x84 MW)	36 MW (13.4 per cent of 270 MW power available to India.)

Besides, Orissa have also been allocated 40 per cent out of the 15 per cent unallocated power from Farakka STPS and remaining 5 per cent unallocated power from Chukha HEP.

Acute shortage of power in Orissa

2946. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people of Orissa are facing acute power problems every year;

(b) whether Government are aware of the power cut imposed by the State Government due to acute power shortage in the State;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove power shortage in that State by creating additional capacity; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The Power Shortage in Orissa during the years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (up to February, 1989) was 24.0 per cent, 17.4 per cent and 18.2 per cent respectively.

(b) To contain the demand within the overall power availability, the States have to resort to power cuts/restrictions.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the availability of power in the State, an additional generation capacity of 483.5 MW has been planned in the VIIth Plan period, out of which 260 MW capacity has already been com-

missioned and the balance is expected to be commissioned by 1989-90. Various other measures to improve the availability of power in Orissa, include optimum utilisation of the existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses and early implementation of centrally sponsored Renovation and modernisation scheme at Talcher Thermal Power Station. To the extent possible, assistance is also provided to Orissa from the Farakka and Chukha Power Stations as well as from the neighbouring systems.

Seminar on Financial performance of State Electricity Boards

2947. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Seminar on Financial Performance of the State Electricity Boards was held in New Delhi during the third week of February, 1989 as reported in "The Hindustan Times" dated the 22nd February, 1989;

(b) if so, what are the names of the personnel who participated in the Seminar;

(c) what are the recommendations made at the seminar; and

(d) what action Government propose to take or have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Seminar on financial performance of the State Electricity Boards, organised jointly by the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and the Tata Energy Research Institute on 20-21 February, 1989 in New Delhi, was attended by representatives of the State Electricity Boards/ State Governments, Deparments of Power and Economic Affairs, Planning Commission, Central Electricity Authority, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Central Sector Power Corporation and other institutions and experts associated with the power sector.

(c) and (d) The broad conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar related to the role of SEBs in the power sector, resource mobilization, technical performance including reduction of energy losses, load and grid management, strengthening of financial management, payment of subsidies, arrangements for resolving consumer disputes, technology choices etc. These have been circulated to the State Electricity Boards.

Coal handling plants of Western Coal Fields Limited

2948. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Limited has commissioned some coal handling plants; and

(b) if so, the cost and capacity of those plants?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Fourteen coal handling plants and eighteen mini coal handling plants with a total capacity of 16.94 million tonnes per annum were commissioned in Western Coalfields Limited upto 1987-88. During 1988-89, three more coal handling plants have been commissioned in Western Coalfields Limited as per details given below:—

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (in million tonnes)	Cost (Rupees in lakhs)
1	Shobhapur Underground . .	1.00	168 47
2	New Majri Phase-II	1.00	238 00 (Including Phase-I)
3	Durgapur Opencast	2.00	427.00